

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	USSR (Odessa Oblast)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Port of Odessa 2. Smeinyy Island	DATE DISTR.	14 November 1955
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.			25X1

1. On the extreme right when [] entered Odessa, there was a petroleum basin, which daily handled an average of three or four oil tankers of varying capacity, and a shipyard equipped with a marine railway for medium--tonnage ships. Near this yard, there was a floating dry dock for vessels not over 6,000 tons. In the tidal basin there were three floating dry docks, one of the type mentioned above, and two others which could dock ships of 10,000 to 12,000 tons. Liberty oil tankers could easily be handled in these docks. Five motor patrol boats armed with twin-mount machine guns forward and aft were berthed to the left of the dry docks. The guns were of approximately 20-mm caliber. Approximately 10 patrol boats of the German type were berthed to the right of the dry docks. During the [] stay in port, these patrol boats departed and entered the harbor several times a day. 25X1
2. Also in the tidal basin, there was berthed a cruiser with two twin--turrets forward and two twin-turrets aft; the guns were presumably 203 or 152-mm caliber. The awnings limited visibility [] could not be absolutely certain of the twin-turret caliber. Four single 120-mm guns were mounted on the port side and four on the starboard. A number of 120-mm guns were placed on a level with the forward turrets, and other 120-mm guns were set abaft the after turrets. The vessel had two torpedo tubes on each side. There were scattered twin-mount machine guns. This unit had three funnels and a tripod mast with radar antenna on it. There also were four modern destroyers, of which one or two were GRECALE and ARTIGLIERE Classes, two on either side of the cruiser, and a COLOMBO-type schoolship. Five motor patrol boats were berthed bow-on to the outer breakwater. They were of the same class as those berthed near the dry docks. 25X1
3. On the stretch of quay situated on the inner side of the first basin entering the harbor from the left, many tracked and wheeled military vehicles were noted, along with many rectangular cases measuring three 25X1

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")													

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by seven meters. These cases were apparently heavy and were marked in Chinese and English. [redacted] these cases were probably intended for China because various fuel-laden ships departed for China during [redacted] stay in port.

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4. The port was equipped with a powerful electric power net for lighting and motive power. It had modern devices for cargo transfer; there were few cranes with less than three-ton capacity and these had a fixed jib; the majority could lift five tons and were luffing cranes. The modern cranes could lift cargo directly from and to ship and warehouse, and were connected to current outlets placed at 20 meter intervals. All the wharves were equipped with water plugs having a flow of 15 to 20 tons an hour. Loading and unloading of cargo was done rapidly and without interruption; this was especially true of heavy tonnage Soviet, [redacted] ships which loaded material and cases for China.

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5. [redacted], jet aircraft frequently flew at high altitudes over the city. Every evening, aircraft maneuvered and flew southward toward Cape Fontana.

6. Along the coast approximately 20 miles south of Cape Fontana, there were several searchlights, batteries, and openwork towers. The searchlights had a range of ten miles and often illuminated passing ships. While navigating during the dark hours along the coast, [redacted] observed a few small boats of the motor patrol type which turned on their running lights when they were almost underneath the side of [redacted] ship and lighted the ship by searchlight to read its name.

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7. When passing near Smeiny Island, [redacted] observed barracks and guns with fairly long barrels. There was radar and searchlights with a range of approximately 20 miles. [redacted] exercises were held with searchlights and non-tracer projectiles. The area was over-flown by jet aircraft. Shipping was not allowed to pass less than four miles off the island.

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